Message Text

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P 131419Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 413
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
JCS WASHDC
CNO WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL VICTORIA 331

E.O. 11652: GDS

COMIDEASTFOR

TAGS: PDIP, MILI, SE, US

SUBJECT: VISIT OF USS TRIPPE FOR SEYCHELLES INDEPENDENCE

REF: A) STATE 135171 (NOTAL)

B) CINCPAC HONOLULU HI DTG 110338Z JUN 77 (NOTAL)

1. IN COURSE JUNE 13 MEETING SEYCHELLES' PRESIDENT RENE SAID HE HAD BEEN REVIEWING PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES TO COMMEMORATE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE AND HOPED VISIT OF USS TRIPPE WOULD PROCEED AS SCHEDULED. I PROVIDED BACKGROUND ON SCHEDULED JUNE 27-JULY 5 VISIT AND INDICATED THATAS FAR AS I WAS AWARE, ROUTINE PLANNING FOR VISIT WAS CONTINUING. RENE SAID HE WAS PERSONALLY LOOKIN FORWARD TO VISIT, HOPED SHIP'S BAND COULD PERFORM IN VILLAGES AS WELL AS AT STADIUM AND AGAIN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR USG "UNDERSTANDING" IN CANCELLATION OF MORTON VISIT.

2. ACCORDING MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, INDEPENDENCE VISITS BY FRENCH WARSHIP AND AUSTRALIAN P-3 AIRCRAFT ARE STILL SCHEDULED.

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- 3. I DID NOT CONSIDER MY FIRST MEETING WITH RENE SINCE COUP TO BE OPPORTUNE OCCASION TO DISCUSS EITHER CANCELLATION OF JUNE 7 P-3 FLIGHT OR FUTURE VISITS BY USN P-3 AIRCRAFT.
- 4. COMMENT: FOR THE MOMENT, RENE MAY BE UNAWARE OF JUNE 7 P-3 VISIT. BELIEVE IT PRUDENT TO LEAVE QUESTION OF FUTURE VISITS UNRESOLVED FOR TIME BEING.

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